

University of Oklahoma College of Law University of Oklahoma College of Law Digital Commons

American Indian and Alaskan Native Documents in the Congressional Serial Set: 1817-1899

5-23-1896

Admission of Oklahoma.

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.law.ou.edu/indianserialset>



Part of the [Indian and Aboriginal Law Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

H.R. Rep. No. 1988, 54th Cong., 1st Sess. (1896)

This House Report is brought to you for free and open access by University of Oklahoma College of Law Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in American Indian and Alaskan Native Documents in the Congressional Serial Set: 1817-1899 by an authorized administrator of University of Oklahoma College of Law Digital Commons. For more information, please contact darinfox@ou.edu.

ADMISSION OF OKLAHOMA.

MAY 23, 1896.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. SCRANTON, from the Committee on the Territories, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 3209.]

The Committee on the Territories, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 3209) to enable the people of Oklahoma to form a constitution and State government, and to be admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, having duly considered the same, beg leave to submit the following report:

The bill contains all the usual provisions which have governed the admission of the Territories as States in recent years, and the committee recommend its passage with amendments as follows:

In line 17, page 2, after the word "delegate" insert the words "Greer County, two delegates."

In lines 21 and 22, page 2, strike out the words "or if Greer County shall become a part of the Territory of Oklahoma."

In line 25, page 2, after the word "delegate" insert the word "and."

In line 1, page 3, strike out the words "and Greer County, two delegates to said convention."

Insert as new section, after section 11, page 11, the following:

That the lands in the Cherokee Outlet known as the Eastern, Middle, and Western Saline Reserves, described in the President's proclamation of August 19, 1893, opening said Outlet to settlement, are hereby granted to the State of Oklahoma, to be disposed of for the benefit of such charitable, penal, or educational institutions as may be determined by the legislature of said State.

At the end of section 13, page 11, insert the following:

To be selected in such manner as the legislature may provide, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

In order that Congress may hereafter exercise its discretion under the Constitution as to what disposition shall be made of the Indian Territory, without the consent of the State of Oklahoma, it is provided, in section 3 of the bill:

That the constitutional convention provided for herein shall, by ordinance irrevocable, express the consent of the State of Oklahoma that Congress may at any time, or from time to time, attach all or any part of the Indian Territory to the State of Oklahoma after the title to said lands is extinguished in the tribes now claiming the same, and the same assigned in severalty and subject to taxation.

The lands granted to the State for the support of common schools, for the benefit of the University of Oklahoma, normal school, agricultural and mechanical college, and for the erection of a State penitentiary, State reform school, State capitol building, and insane asylum are the same as the lands reserved for such purposes by the act of Congress

organizing the Territory, and by the various acts opening the different Indian reservations to settlement. In addition to these grants, section 13 provides for a grant of 1,500,000 acres for the establishment of permanent water reservoirs for irrigation and other purposes. This grant is made in lieu of the grant of land for purposes of internal improvement made to new States by the eighth section of the act of September 4, 1841, and in lieu of any claim or demand of the State of Oklahoma under the act of September 28, 1850, and section 2429 of the Revised Statutes, making a grant of swamp and overflowed lands on the condition that the State of Oklahoma is hereafter precluded from making any claim or demand for lands under the aforesaid acts of Congress and sections of the Revised Statutes.

Two Members of Congress are provided for in the bill on the basis of a population of 325,000.

The Territory of Oklahoma contains an area of 38,715 square miles, or 24,777,875 acres. It is larger than the State of Indiana, and nearly as large as the State of Ohio. There are 12 States containing a less area than the proposed State of Oklahoma, viz, Rhode Island, Delaware, Connecticut, New Jersey, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, Maryland, West Virginia, South Carolina, Maine, and Indiana.

On the 1st day of February, 1894, the population of the Territory, as shown by the reports of the county clerks to the Territorial auditor, was 212,635. In his official report to the Secretary of the Interior for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, the governor of the Territory estimates an increase up to that date of 62,365, making a total of 275,000. The addition of Greer County, by the recent decision of the Supreme Court, has added a population of at least 10,000, and in the ten months that have elapsed since the governor's report there has been a rapid increase in the cities and towns and in the settlement of the new lands.

Immigration into the Territory is now very large, and a conservative estimate places the present population at 325,000. The population of the Territory is more distinctively American than the population of any State or Territory, as shown by the census, and in all respects is industrious, intelligent, and progressive.

The following table shows that of 30 States admitted into the Union since 1791 (excluding Utah) only three had a population in excess of 100,000 by the census next previous to admission, and only four had a greater population by the following census:

Date of admission of each State, the population by the census taken next preceding the admission, and the population by the census next following the admission.

State.	Date of admission.	Population by census next previous to admission.	Population by following census.
Vermont	Mar. 4, 1791	85,425	154,465
Kentucky	June 1, 1792	73,667	220,955
Tennessee	June 1, 1796	35,691	105,602
Ohio	Nov. 29, 1802	45,365	230,760
Louisiana	Apr. 30, 1812	76,556	152,923
Indiana	Dec. 11, 1816	24,188	146,388
Mississippi	Dec. 10, 1817	40,352	75,448
Alabama	Dec. 14, 1819		
Illinois	Dec. 3, 1818	12,292	55,162
Maine	Mar. 15, 1820	228,865	298,532
Missouri	Aug. 10, 1821	66,557	140,455
Arkansas	June 15, 1836	30,388	97,574
Michigan	Jan. 26, 1837	31,679	212,267
Florida	Mar. 3, 1845	54,477	87,445
Texas	Dec. 29, 1845	212,592
Iowa	Dec. 28, 1846	43,112	192,214

Date of admission of each State, etc.—Continued.

State.	Date of admission.	Population by census next previous to admission.	Population by following census.
Wisconsin.....	May 29, 1848	30, 945	305, 391
California.....	Sept. 9, 1850	101, 597	327, 263
Minnesota.....	May 11, 1858	6, 077	169, 654
Oregon.....	Feb. 14, 1859	13, 294	52, 288
Kansas.....	Jan. 29, 1861	107, 017	363, 485
West Virginia.....	June 19, 1863	—	442, 013
Nevada.....	Oct. 31, 1864	6, 857	39, 316
Nebraska.....	Mar. 1, 1867	28, 778	122, 906
Colorado.....	Aug. 1, 1876	39, 677	194, 327
North Dakota.....	Nov. 2, 1889	36, 909	182, 496
South Dakota.....	do	98, 268	328, 808
Washington.....	Nov. 11, 1889	75, 116	349, 390
Idaho.....	July 3, 1890	32, 610	84, 219
Wyoming.....	July 11, 1890	20, 789	60, 700

The assessed valuation of property in the Territory for 1895 was \$39,275,189.21, while the real value at this time approaches \$100,000,000. This remarkable development has taken place notwithstanding only a small portion of the land has yet been deeded to homestead settlers. The time has arrived when final proofs are being rapidly made, and at an early day the real value of property subject to taxation will reach \$200,000,000. The following table shows the assessed valuation by counties for 1894 and 1895:

Taxable property of Oklahoma Territory by counties.

County.	1894.	1895.	County.	1894.	1895.
Beaver.....	\$384, 288. 58	\$978, 104. 15	M, Woods.....	\$682, 206. 78	\$1, 558, 758. 60
Blaine.....	260, 141. 00	451, 204. 80	N, Woodward.....	720, 378. 14	1, 410, 397. 40
Canadian.....	1, 889, 631. 57	8, 816, 650. 01	O, Garfield.....	790, 617. 59	1, 379, 330. 69
Cleveland.....	1, 389, 008. 10	2, 045, 583. 52	Oklahoma.....	3, 279, 886. 25	4, 575, 520. 44
D.....	90, 757. 00	244, 192. 50	P, Noble.....	966, 563. 16	1, 518, 177. 35
Day.....	151, 959. 58	344, 139. 00	Payne.....	958, 077. 57	1, 385, 341. 70
G.....	147, 207. 00	327, 987. 40	Pottawatomie.....	658, 343. 00	1, 029, 746. 00
K.....	962, 997. 00	2, 803, 420. 04	Q, Pawnee.....	185, 853. 00	1, 608, 781. 25
Kingfisher.....	1, 562, 038. 43	2, 039, 141. 70	Roger Mills.....	256, 209. 00	345, 988. 65
L, Grant.....	808, 829. 22	1, 043, 620. 63	Washita.....	193, 604. 00	395, 411. 90
Lincoln.....	648, 734. 00	1, 084, 329. 45			
Logan.....	2, 950, 619. 89	3, 889, 362. 03	Total.....	19, 947, 922. 80	39, 275, 189. 21

There are 9 daily and 100 weekly newspapers published in Oklahoma, and several monthly publications.

In all the avenues of industry and in the development of the natural resources of the Territory, as well as in population, there has been a growth scarcely less than marvelous. Though the first settlers did not enter the Territory until the 22d day of April, 1889, and a Territorial government was not established until May, 1890, this short period of time finds Oklahoma abundantly qualified to assume the responsibilities of statehood. The governor says in his report:

The growth of Oklahoma has been rapid from the beginning, and I doubt if ever before so large a scope of country was so well settled and permanently improved in six years. Each reservation as it was opened was settled in a day, and the work of improving farms and building towns was immediately begun. Oklahoma is building on a firm foundation and is doing very little business on borrowed capital. This fact may just for the present retard its development, but ultimately the policy will prove itself wise. From a mental and moral standpoint the progress has been marked, and the cause of education and reform has been espoused by the masses of the people. Schoolhouses may be found in every community.

The common-school system of the Territory is well established. Commodious schoolhouses have been erected in all the well-settled portions of the Territory. Under the act of Congress providing for leasing the school lands the net proceeds from 1891 to 1895, inclusive, were \$180,261.88.

The following table, including the lands reserved by acts of Congress for the benefit of common schools, colleges, and public buildings, shows the income from the leases:

Notes on hand.

Due.	Num-ber.	Amount.	Due.	Num-ber.	Amount.
Common schools:			Colleges:		
Jan. 1, 1892.....	25	\$1,128.47	Dec. 15, 1894.....	6	\$302.80
Apr. 1, 1892.....	17	485.40	Dec. 15, 1895.....	270	8,996.04
Dec. 15, 1892.....	37	937.34	Dec. 15, 1896.....	326	11,884.80
Jan. 1, 1893.....	45	2,167.60	Dec. 15, 1897.....	138	5,098.68
Apr. 1, 1893.....	23	644.73			
Miscellaneous.....	12	286.30	Total		26,282.32
Dec. 15, 1893.....	120	3,462.04			
Jan. 1, 1894.....	51	2,399.87	Public buildings:		
Apr. 1, 1894.....	21	601.27	Dec. 15, 1894.....	10	367.83
Dec. 15, 1894.....	284	10,718.52	Dec. 15, 1895.....	280	10,340.05
Oct. 1, 1895.....	546	12,569.09	Dec. 15, 1896.....	335	13,413.95
Dec. 15, 1895.....	1,448	53,967.25	Dec. 15, 1897.....	126	4,936.47
Oct. 1, 1896.....	24	772.00	Total		29,058.30
Dec. 15, 1896.....	878	38,983.60			
Oct. 1, 1897.....	24	772.00	Grand total notes on		
Dec. 15, 1897.....	106	3,502.85	hand		188,739.35
Total		133,398.73			

Net proceeds from leasing school land.

For fiscal year ending—

June 30, 1891.....	\$4,536.82
June 30, 1892.....	21,346.13
June 30, 1893.....	19,164.67
June 30, 1894.....	46,586.29
June 30, 1895.....	88,627.97

Total net receipts..... 180,261.88

Speaking of the public schools and the Territorial university, normal school, and the agricultural and mechanical college, the governor says:

By act of the third legislative assembly two or more districts were authorized to unite in establishing a district high school, where advanced training could be secured by pupils without leaving their homes. In the main, the districts are provided with well-built schoolhouses. The normal institutes for training teachers were well attended, and have done much to advance the cause of popular education.

There has been apportioned among the several counties, in the ratio of their school population, in the past year \$54,665.65, derived from the leasing of school lands, the same being 69 cents per capita. There are 79,665 children of school age in the Territory. Below is given the apportionment of the fund derived from the leasing of school lands for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895:

County.	School pop-ulation.	Amount.	County.	School pop-ulation.	Amount.
Beaver.....	1,017	\$701.73	M. Woods.....	5,940	\$4,098.60
Blaine.....	2,128	1,466.94	N. Woodward.....	792	546.48
Canadian.....	4,528	3,124.32	O. Garfield.....	4,316	2,978.04
Cleveland.....	4,835	3,336.15	Oklahoma.....	6,631	4,575.39
D.....	442	404.98	P. Noble.....	2,262	1,560.78
Day.....	187	129.03	Payne.....	5,472	3,775.68
G.....	1,473	1,016.37	Pottawatomie.....	4,914	3,590.66
K.....	5,282	3,644.58	Q. Pawnee.....	1,836	1,266.84
Kingfisher.....	6,204	4,280.76	Roger Mills.....	515	355.35
L. Grant.....	4,235	2,922.15	Washita.....	1,526	1,052.94
Lincoln.....	5,370	3,705.30			
Logan.....	7,807	5,428.23	Total	77,770	53,661.30

THE UNIVERSITY.

The University of Oklahoma is located at Norman, a flourishing city in the southern part of the Territory. It has a beautiful building, well supplied with apparatus, and a good library, and it offers excellent courses in all regular college studies. It is rigorous in its requirements for admission to the university classes, and requires thorough scholarship for graduation. The policy has been to keep the standard of scholarship high. The university has been compelled to establish a preparatory department to fit students for the university proper.

The Oklahoma Historical Society occupies a room in the building at the university. It is collecting exhaustive data on current history of the Territory. The university is supported by a one-half mill levy on the taxable property of the Territory and by a third share of the rental derived from the leasing of section 13 in the former Cherokee Outlet, which was reserved by act of Congress for the use and benefit of the university, Agricultural and Mechanical College, and Normal School. The revenue from this source will likely amount to \$5,000 per annum for each institution. The university has had in attendance 190 students during the past year.

NORMAL SCHOOL.

The first legislative assembly for the Territory of Oklahoma established the Territorial Normal School at Edmond, a brisk and thriving town on the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad, and midway between Oklahoma City and Guthrie, the capital. Situated nearly in the center of the Territory, and easily accessible from all portions, few schools have a greater future before them. The school must grow as the Territory develops. The people of Oklahoma are deeply interested in the cause of education, as is attested by their admirable school system, excellent elementary and high-school buildings, and the institution and erection of the Normal.

The Normal building (of the native red sandstone and brick) contains, besides the president's office and spacious halls, a large and commodious assembly hall and fourteen class rooms. The rooms are furnished neatly and appropriately, with special and adequate arrangements in the making of music rooms and laboratories. As yet, however, owing to a lack of funds due to the immediate necessity for building and furnishing, only a limited supply of apparatus has been purchased for the natural science department; but that is of the best quality, and large additions will be made in the near future. For the same reason the library is yet in its incipency, though there are many valuable books of reference already on the shelves; but, as in the science department, large additions will be made during the coming year.

The faculty at present consists of a president and five professors, two being ladies, besides an instructor in music. Several courses are open to students, who numbered last year 161, male and female. These courses offer not only a thorough literary, business, and academic training but also lead up to and embrace the pedagogic and professional. The especial aim and object of this school is to prepare teachers.

The institution is supported by a levy of a one-half mill tax, the income from reserved school lands, and legislative appropriations. For the coming year the outlook is most promising. The Normal may rightfully look forward to a growing and useful career. Cheerfully supported by the whole people, its influence for good radiates and touches every class.

THE AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE.

The Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, located at Stillwater, is supported by funds directly appropriated by the United States, and also by one-third of the proceeds from the leasing of section 13 in the Cherokee Outlet. During the year it received \$20,000 from the United States and \$8,953.76 from the Territory. Of the funds received from the United States \$14,701 was for the support of the agricultural experiment station established as a department of the college.

During the year a new, well-constructed, and, as a whole, well-arranged college building was occupied for the first time. Large additions were made to the library and to the collections of apparatus in the different departments. There were enrolled 143 students, not all of whom were present throughout the college year. Regular classes up to the junior year were maintained, 54 students being enrolled in these. The faculty consists of 8 persons, including the president and two teachers in the preparatory department. Good work was done in all departments. The policy of the institution is to keep in close touch with the public school system, receiving students direct from these schools. The course of study gives special attention to the natural sciences and their application to agriculture and the industries of life. Several changes took place in the corps of instructors during and at the close of the year. It is believed, however, that the outlook for the college and also for the experimental work is more encouraging than at any former time.

The insane of the Territory are well cared for by the Oklahoma Sanitarium Company, in buildings located at Norman. The main building is 44 by 90 feet, three stories high, to which a recent addition has been built, also three stories high, 35 by 100 feet. In all the necessary appointments of a modern hospital this institution stands in the front rank.

The financial condition of the Territory is good. The general fund warrants outstanding, less cash in the treasury, amount to about \$160,000. The governor reports that this sum will be greatly decreased after the collection of taxes due. Only \$48,000 in Territorial school bonds are outstanding. The proceeds have been used in the construction of buildings for the university, normal school, and agricultural and mechanical college. The levy for all Territorial purposes for the present year is 3 mills on the dollar, raising a fund of \$117,825, which is sufficient to meet all the current obligations of the Territory.

There are 5 national banks and 52 private banks in the Territory. Private banks are not required by law to furnish information relating to their condition. Twenty-four out of the 57 banks, responding to the request of the governor for financial statements, show a capital stock of \$546,000, with surplus and undivided profits of \$87,000; deposits, \$1,302,000; loans and discounts, \$826,000; securities, \$190,000; cash and sight exchange, \$465,000.

The railroad mileage of the Territory is 463 miles, comprising four lines. Rights of way have been secured for several other important roads, surveys made, and it is probable that they will be constructed at an early day. The roads now in operation are the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe; the Chicago, Rock Island, and Pacific; the Kiowa Division of the Santa Fe, and the Choctaw, Oklahoma and Gulf, connecting Oklahoma with all the main roads which permeate the surrounding States.

The agricultural capacities of Oklahoma rank well with the prairie States of the West. The soil is rich and the climate favorable for the production of all the cereal crops common to that latitude. Wheat, corn, oats, cotton, and all kinds of fruit are produced in abundance. The native grasses are exceedingly nutritious, and there is no superior section of the United States for raising cattle and horses. The hay crop is very large and finds a ready market outside of the Territory. Since the first settlement the raising of cotton has rapidly increased from year to year, and its production has now become a leading industry. In the eastern portion of the Territory there are large areas covered with fine timber, and in the central and western sections the timber is fairly well distributed.

There are nearly 10,000,000 acres of land in Oklahoma, including six Indian reservations, that are yet unsettled. The Wichita reserve, containing 743,610 acres, has been ceded to the United States and will be settled as soon as the Indians take their allotments in severalty. Under the policy of the Government the Indians on all the remaining reservations will soon break up their tribal relations, cede the greater portion of their lands, and become citizens of the United States. As near as can be ascertained these Indians number about 8,000.

Many other considerations might be urged why Oklahoma is fairly entitled to statehood. But considering her large population, rapid development, present wealth, and future possibilities, there is no good reason why her people should not be clothed with all the responsibilities of self government. In the opinion of the committee no Territory has ever been better fitted to enter the Union as a State.

APPENDIX.

[By Will T. Little, historical custodian, Norman, Okla.]

The value of any commodity is measured by whatever demand there may be for it. As a basic principle from which there is no general variance, "demand" is measured by density of population. Above any one thing rainfall determines this density.

The entire line of estimate concerning Oklahoma will consider it as a State extending about from latitude 34 to 37 north, and longitude 94 to 103 west, although only a very narrow belt extends beyond the 100th meridian. Oklahoma's present boundaries merging into Statehood can not prevent the final carrying out of destiny. Ultimately one governor will rule from Arkansas to New Mexico.

Precedent, both retarder and safety valve of progress, is a monarch much consulted. From it one finds latitude, altitude, and precipitation largely determining density of settlement. In ranging from zero to 10.5 feet, the United States has an average annual rainfall of 28.6 inches. Districts receiving from 20 to 30 inches have, during the twenty years from 1870 to 1890, increased their per square mile population about 800 per cent, while districts receiving from 60 to 70 inches have increased but 60 per cent. The greatest numerical increase has been in the from 40 to 50, and the next greatest in the from 30 to 40 inch districts. The former, between 1870 and 1890, gained 8,248,000, and the latter 7,224,000. In remembering the first represents a strictly urban, and the second an almost exclusively rural element, one must know producers are seeking the from 30 to 40, and consumers the from 40 to 50 inch districts. Above or below these districts population and its density increases.

Within a from 30 to 50 inch scope lives 75 per cent of the country's entire population. Over 40 per cent of the United States there falls an annual precipitation of less than 20 inches, a belt in which but 3 per cent of our people find homes. (Oklahoma has but one county crossed by this belt.) The from 40 to 50 inch district has 59, and the from 30 to 40-inch has 43.1 people to the square mile, while the United States has 21.31. A noticeable and constant tendency is drifting of densest population toward the from 30 to 40 inch district. In 1870 it was in the belt of 42.5 inches, in 1880, it went down to 42, and in 1890 it decreased to 41.4 inches. That this decade will send it below the next zero there can be no doubt. How long these reductions will continue is left largely with those resident between longitudes 94 and 103.

The past quarter century's drift toward city life, cities usually being in the low and heavy rainfall districts, has made a graduation of what otherwise would have been an avalanche toward the from 20 to 40 inch regions. In the future railroads, not waterways, will build cities. Then they can go higher and drier. That time is not distant when our great masses of unemployed and unsatisfied will turn their faces toward the green field, the undeveloped, the great West. Cities have, for the present, taken in all a healthy digestion will warrant. Urban appetite is satisfied to the point of satiation, and soon those restless millions will overrun the from 20 to 30 inch limit, as between 20 and 40 inches must become the horticulturist's paradise, the agriculturist's Utopia, the headquarters of true freedom's highest civilization. Some may require irrigation and reforesting. If so, irrigation and reforesting will become accomplished facts.

Rainfall and 62,622,000 people.

Inches of annual rainfall.	People in each rain belt.
Zero to 10	188, 000
10 to 20	1, 636, 000
20 to 30	3, 781, 000
30 to 40	21, 353, 000
40 to 50	24, 710, 000
50 to 60	10, 122, 000
60 to 70	798, 000
70 to 125	34, 000

A study of these tables can not but furnish food for thought when it is known the 30-inch demarcation line leaves the greater portion of our future State far to its east, while practically none of it extends west beyond the from 20 to 30 inch district. That is, there are portions of Minnesota receiving less rain than any point in Oklahoma, save and except the western end of one county. There are more than twice as many people living in the below 20 than in the above 60 inch belt. One entire district of what is to be this State receives an annual precipitation of 25 per

cent greater than those districts wherein live one-half the American people, and almost 100 per cent greater than the entire country's average.

Tabled comparisons constitute accuracy and efficiency. The figures here given are averages, often covering not less than half a century of years, as in the cases of Fort Townsend and others.

Woodward, Cantonment, Gate City, and Buffalo (some months missing) each show below 20 inches. Records of the first three are for but one year and that chanced to be a dry one. Stations farther west in Texas prove the three to be within the from 20 to 30 inch belt. Buffalo is the only weather station in Oklahoma whose annual average will fall within the from 15 to 20 inch district. Of Oklahoma's south line, as a State, three-sixteenths of it has 50 to 60, three-sixteenths from 40 to 50, six-sixteenths 30 to 40, and four-sixteenths 20 to 30. There is no part of Missouri, Illinois, Iowa, or Wisconsin receiving as much rainfall as do certain parts of this country. St. Paul, Minn., and Sioux City, Iowa, are in the same rain belt as Mangum, Arapahoe, and Woodward. From British America to the Gulf moisture lines extend from northeast to southwest, at times running almost due east and west, dry to the north and west, to the south. In a general way this is true from the Atlantic to the Rockies. The dry belts between the Mississippi and the mountains narrow as they extend south. So no longitudinal moisture comparison can be made as between Oklahoma and Kansas. There is no given point in Kansas receiving as much rain as any point due south of it in Oklahoma. This northeast and southwest distribution of rain and southward widening of the wet belt places Chicago, Perry, and St. Louis in the same rainfall district.

Location.	Inches.	Location.	Inches.
STATE OF OKLAHOMA.		VARIOUS POINTS—continued.	
Buffalo	17.53	Duluth, Minn.	32.0
Cantonment	18.98	Sacramento, Cal.	19.6
Woodward	19.34	San Francisco, Cal.	23.6
Gate City	19.77	La Crosse, Wis.	31.8
Mangum	23.27	Milwaukee, Wis.	32.2
Gwenddall	24.20	Green Bay, Wis.	33.0
Anadarko	25.30	Toledo, Ohio	31.7
Fort Supply	27.97	Sandusky, Ohio	35.5
Fort Reno	28.05	Cleveland, Ohio	37.7
Fort Sill	30.67	Davenport, Iowa	34.5
Oklahoma City	30.74	Des Moines, Iowa	35.0
Tulsa	31.90	Keokuk, Iowa	35.9
Purcell	32.43	Dubuque, Iowa	37.1
Fort Arbuckle	35.07	Oswego, N. Y.	35.0
Lehigh	35.55	Rochester, N. Y.	35.2
Fort Gibson	36.55	Buffalo, N. Y.	38.2
Heraldton	37.02	Albany, N. Y.	38.8
Eufala	37.45	Mackinaw, Mich.	28.5
Sapulpa	38.08	Port Huron, Mich.	32.2
Fort Washita	38.23	Marquette, Mich.	32.5
Fort Towson	* 51.53	Detroit, Mich.	32.6
Fort Smith to the east in Arkansas	44.70	Burlington, Vt.	32.0
Fort Elliott to the west in Texas	26.60	Roseburg, Oreg.	34.9
		Pittsburg, Pa.	37.8
VARIOUS POINTS.		Yuma, Ariz.	3.3
St. Vincent, Minn.	19.10	Keeler, Cal.	3.3
Moorehead, Minn.	24.30	Winnemucca, Nev.	8.9
St. Paul, Minn.	26.60	Montrose, Colo.	9.5

* Fort Towson is for a fifty years' average.

In exhausting available precipitation records, extending back to 1836, as applicable to the coming State, the extremes for localities and years are found to be 13.15 and 73.38 inches, while the snowfall is measured by from zero to feet. In applying these tables to agriculture, the fact that, ground once at proper air and water constituency, 12 inches of equitably distributed and economically utilized rainfall will perfect Indian corn, becomes a matter of no small concern. There has been no jockeying with figures. To those desiring information, facts are presented. With the exception of one very narrow strip, Oklahoma's east and west lines will extend from the 20 and 30 into the 50 and 60 inch belt, that scope wherein must come the pomp of agriculture's power.

Altitude and 62,622,000 people.

Feet above sea level.	Population.	Feet above sea level.	Population.
Zero to 10,000	10,387,000	1,500 to 2,000	2,354,000
100 to 500	13,838,000	2,000 to 3,000	1,154,000
500 to 1,000	23,947,000	3,000 to 10,000	1,501,000
1,000 to 1,500	9,434,000	10,000 and over	10,000

Each year a larger per cent is found in the higher altitudes. The greatest numerical increase is between 500 and 1,000 feet. The increase in those belts of from 100 to 500 feet, and from 1,000 to 5,000 come next in order, differing from each other but 293,000 since 1870. In twenty-six years the belt above 10,000 feet has increased to exceed 500 per cent, and that below 100 feet but 40 per cent. The entire American tendency for density is toward higher elevation.

Average elevation where people live.

	Feet.
In 1870	687
In 1880	739
In 1890	788
In 1900 (probably)	1,000

Territorial altitudes.

Red Rock	897
Guthrie	947
White Eagle	961
Pond Creek	1,062
Fort Sill	1,200
Burnett, Pottowatomie County	1,200
Oklahoma City	1,239
Enid	1,258
Alva	1,320
Fort Reno	1,400
Mangum, Greer County	1,600
Woodward	2,300

Various altitudes.

Arkansas City	1,081
Omaha, Nebr	1,113
Springfield, Mo	1,356
Wichita	1,366
Dodge City, Kans	2,523
Fort Elliott, Tex	2,690
El Paso	2,796
Helena, Mont	4,118
Salt Lake	4,345
Deadwood, S. Dak	4,600

This table takes no account of 31,000 square miles which will come to Oklahoma from the east, and its altitudes are less than those here given. Although the State's southeast and northwest corners, its highest and lowest points, have not yet been taken, their altitudes will probably range between from 400 to 500 and 3,000 to 4,000 feet. Reminding readers that but a very, very narrow strip reaches the extreme altitudes, and that even Chicago is up 824 feet, should give the thoughtful ones a conception of what these figures indicate.

A line equally distant from Arkansas and Texas on the west would have points below the 900 feet limit, and Mangum, within a few miles of the extreme west line, is but 244 feet above Springfield, Mo. No other inland State will furnish Oklahoma's diversity of elevation. And yet there is only enough of the extremes to create that diversity.

Water surface.

	Square miles.
State of Oklahoma	600
Iowa	555
Georgia	495
Mississippi	470

	Square miles.
Indiana	440
South Carolina	400
Kansas	380
New Jersey	360
Tennessee	300
Ohio	300
West Virginia	135
Arizona	100

These figures take no advantage of small States. Ohio is 35 per cent larger than one-half of Oklahoma, and yet her water surface is but one-half Oklahoma's. Oklahoma's per cent of Territorial boundaries have an acre of water for each 195 acres of land.

After leaving its starting point the country's center of population, although shifted every ten years, has but once touched a State equal to Oklahoma in water surface, and that was prior to 1820.

TOPOGRAPHY.

Of the twenty-one subdivisions this State will have three. The relative increase of population gives the student a subject, the observer a point of interest.

Great Plains.

[Extends from longitude 99 W. to the Rocky Mountains, and from the British Dominion to the Gulf.]

	Population.
1870	73, 000
1880	222, 000
1890	736, 000

Prairie region.

[Extends from Indiana to Great Plains and from British Dominions to Gulf, but does not include all of east end of Oklahoma.]

	Population.
1870	6, 715, 000
1880	9, 777, 000
1890	13, 048, 000

Alluvial regions of Mississippi Valley.

[Extends only over that portion of Oklahoma receiving an excess of rainfall. None of it reaches either Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, either of the Dakotas, or Minnesota.]

	Population.
1870	460, 000
1880	683, 000
1890	885, 000

LONGITUDE.

In the last decade, between longitudes 100 and 104, the population increased 622.25 per cent. The belt between 101 and 102 increased 1,500 per cent, that being 800 per cent above any longitudinal belt west of 104 or east of 100.

That population does not regularly increase as the mountains are approached from the Mississippi River is proven by the longitudinal belt between 96 and 97 having 19.72 people to the square mile, while the belt to its east between 95 and 96 has but 18.77. This is accounted for by the immense water surface of the former belt where it crosses the States to our north. A reference to the water-surface table will prove this density is certain to come still farther west in Oklahoma. In the former decade Oklahoma's longitude increased 405.20 per cent and the United States but 30 per cent. In the last decade Oklahoma's longitude increased 353.15 per cent and the United States 24.8 per cent.

The longitude of Oklahoma becomes an arbitrary and useless line when comparing the moisture conditions of its different latitudes. Our moisture districts and our longitudes do not parallel, the former in any given longitude increasing with the decrease of latitude. In this State the eastern slope of the Rockies and the alluvial regions of the Mississippi join. This is not true in any State to its north, as the prairie region there extends eastward across them all. Oklahoma is benefited by her proximity to the Gulf. Western mining and irrigation interests will keep the country's center of population coming westward.

TEMPERATURE.

One per cent of the entire country's population lives where the mean annual temperature is 75° ; 50 per cent where it is between 45 and 55. Since 1870 the greatest density of population has been where annual temperature ranged from 50 to 55. During the last two decades population has trebled at these two extremes and gained but 50 per cent in the dense district. Since 1870 the belt from 55 to 60 has gained a larger per cent than the one from 50 to 55 or 40 to 50. The entire country's average annual temperature, not including Alaska, is 53° , and, taking density of population into consideration, it is at this temperature an average of the entire people live.

Where we live.

Average temperature, degrees.	Population.
Below 40.....	1, 035, 000
40 to 50.....	22, 295, 000
50 to 60.....	28, 404, 000
60 to 70.....	10, 111, 000
70 and over.....	778, 000

Subject to several varieties not sufficiently pronounced to destroy a general statement, Oklahoma's mean annual temperature extends from 55° to 60° . Of foreign population, 86 per cent live between 40 and 55, and the colored man generally lives above 60, while his most rapid increase is between 65 and 70. This makes Oklahoma the "white native-born American belt." The entire country's center of population has never varied 15 miles in coming westward along Oklahoma's line of temperature, and it has never left the Oklahoma belt.

LATITUDE.

Between parallels 40 and 41 north the United States has 53.36 people to the square mile, this being the latitude of most dense population. In leaving this central belt of 1° for a belt 3° wide on either side, it is found the northern belt sustains the greater population. But in drawing a further belt of 3° on either side, the opposite proves true. That is, the district between parallels 34 and 37 (Oklahoma) is more densely populated than the district between 44 and 47, they being equally distant from the 1° belt of density that contains almost one-sixth of the entire country's population. In the United States Oklahoma's latitude supports a population of 14.16 to the square mile, while the same amount of latitude equally distant north of the central district has but 8.36.

Oklahoma's latitude during the last decade increased its population by 2.65 per cent less than did the country in general. This was owing to the immense foreign immigration to the Northwest. Overflow, needless in factory regions and high-rental farm districts, now point in this direction. In populating the Northwest foreign immigration followed a common latitude from its European hive. High civilization can go farther south than north of that dense district of which north Kansas is the south line. Oklahoma's latitude seems, by the eternal fitness of things, to have been reserved as a Mecca for American-born immigration. The country's center of population started and has remained south of its present geographical center, placing Oklahoma almost in its line of westward march.

On dense population.

United States:

Square miles (independent of Alaska).....	3, 024, 600
Population.....	62, 622, 250
Population per square mile.....	21. 31
Per cent of increased population between 1880 and 1890.....	24. 8
Mean annual temperature in which an average of the people live.....degrees..	53
Average annual rainfall in which an average of the people live.....inches..	41. 4
Average annual rainfall of the United States.....do.....	28. 6
Average altitude of the United States.....feet..	2, 500
Altitude in which an average of the people live.....do.....	778

That Oklahoma is capable of sustaining a far more dense population than can the United States can easily be proven.

Her average rainfall for the entire State will be considerably above the United States.

Her average altitude for the entire State will probably be less than one-half of the United States.

Her average annual temperature for the entire State is almost identical with that wherein has traveled the country's center of population for more than a century.

While her average altitude is a little higher than that at which an average of the people live to-day, it should be remembered that each decade shows the people to be going higher.

While her average annual rainfall is less than that in which an average of the people live to-day, it should be remembered each decade shows a drift toward belts of less precipitation. To this there is no exception.

Vegetable raisers about Cincinnati farm an average of 3 acres and pay per acre rentals up into the hundreds. This means 213 to the square mile. There are many regular farming districts having 45 to the square mile. The State of Oklahoma can support 5,000,000 people better than she now supports her present population.

